

KEARSLEY URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

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I N T E R I M

A N N U A L R E P O R T

FOR THE YEAR 1939

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

(ALEXANDER G. GLASS, M.A., M.D., D.F.H.)

AND OF THE

SANITARY INSPECTOR.

(F. BROOK, M.R.S.I., M.S.I.A.)

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MEMBERS OF THE SANITARY COMMITTEE.

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Chairman :

Councillor J. H. Brooks.

Vice-Chairman :

Councillor J. Martin.

Members :

Councillor Mrs. A. M. Hogg, J.P.

" H. Barrett.

" J. Cranshaw, J.P.

" J. Fox.

" W. Holehouse.

" E. Howard.

" R. Knowles.

" R. Matthews, J.P., C.C.

" S. J. Morgan.

" J. E. Robey.

" R. C. Smith.

" S. Street.

" R. Tyldsley.

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To the Chairman and Members of the Sanitary Committee.

Mrs. Hogg and Gentlemen,

The Ministry of Health (Circular 2067) have informed Local Authorities that the Annual Report of the Medical Officer of Health for 1939 should be cut down to a minimum, and that only urgent matters should be dealt with. The full report will be retained in manuscript in the office, and may be printed at a subsequent date.

This present Interim Report therefore is a mere skeleton outline of the work of the year. Its delay in publication is due to the fact that the figures relating to vital statistics were not received from the County till the end of November.

I am,

Your obedient servant,

A. G. GLASS.

STATISTICS OF THE AREA.

Area - 1,720 statute acres (approx.)

Population - Estimated 1939 - For calculation of Birth Rate 10,740.
 " " " Death Rate 10,610.

Extracts from Vital Statistics of the Year.

	Total.	Males.	Females.
Births : Legitimate	134	66	68
Illegitimate.....	1	1	-
Birth rate per 1000 population,	12.5		
Still Births... ..	6	3	3
Rate per 1000 total births,	42.0		
	Total.	Males.	Females.
Deaths.	151	78	73
Crude Death rate per 1000 population,	14.2		
Adjusted " " " " "	15.6		

Number of women dying in, or in consequence of, childbirth - Nil.

Deaths of infants under one year of age :-

	Total.	Males.	Females.
Legitimate	8	5	3
Illegitimate..	1	1	-
Infantile Mortality Rate - 66.0 per 1000 births.			
Deaths from Cancer (all ages).....			12
Deaths from Measles (all ages).....			Nil.
Deaths from Whooping Cough (all ages).....			Nil.
Deaths from Diarrhoea (under 2 years of age)			Nil.

CAUSES OF DEATH IN 1939.

Influenza... ..	1
Diphtheria..	3
Tuberculosis of respiratory system..	1
Other tuberculosis..	6
Cancer, malignant disease... ..	12
Diabetes	4
Cerebral haemorrhage, etc... ..	7
Heart disease... ..	41
Other circulatory diseases..	11
Bronchitis..	6
Pneumonia (all forms)... ..	10
Other digestive diseases	2
Acute and chronic nephritis.	6
Congenital debility and malformation, premature birth	3
Other liver diseases	2
Senility	11
Suicide.	4
Other deaths from violence..	9
Other defined diseases..	9
Scarlet fever... ..	1
Appendicitis	2
Total	151

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES
IN THE AREA.

Public Health Officers of the Local Authority - As before.

Professional Nursing in the Home - As before.

Midwives - No change.

Laboratory Facilities - No change.

Hospitals available for the Area - As before.

Ambulance Facilities - As before

Clinics and Treatment Centres - As before.

Water supply - As before.

PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER, INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

The following is a list of cases of infectious disease notified during the year 1939 :-

<u>Disease.</u>	<u>No.</u>
Scarlet fever.	18
Diphtheria.	8
Erysipelas.	4
Acute primary pneumonia.	7
Acute influenzal pneumonia.	1

Cases removed to hospital from the district :-

Scarlet fever.....	13
Diphtheria.....	7

Tuberculosis :-	Respiratory.....	3
	Non-respiratory...	9

Scarlet fever.

18 cases of this disease were notified, one of which proved fatal.

Diphtheria.

8 cases were notified during the year, against an average of 31 for the previous three years. There were 3 deaths.

Pathological Specimens examined during 1939.

<u>Nature of Specimen.</u>	<u>Number.</u>	<u>Result positive.</u>
Throat swabs (for diphtheria)	35	6

Immunisation.

The following table shows the number of children who were fully protected during the year :-

Under 1 yr.	1-2 yrs.	2-3 yrs.	3-4 yrs.	4-5 yrs.	5-6 yrs.	6-7 yrs.	7-8 yrs.	8-9 yrs.
-	9	10	11	20	34	32	35	32

9-10 yrs.	10-11 yrs.	11-12 yrs.	12-13 yrs.	13-14 yrs.	Over 14	Total.
40	40	28	30	29	1	351

Diphtheria Antitoxin.

Antitoxin is provided by the Council free of charge for patients residing within the district. A supply is always available for medical practitioners, and is supplied in phials of 8,000 units and of 1,000 units, the former for curative and the latter for prophylactic purposes.

Antitoxin to the amount of 104,000 units was issued to medical men during 1939.

Statement showing treatment received during the year by patients suffering from tuberculosis who reside in the area.

	Adults.	Children.	Total.
Number of cases :-			
Admitted to Sanatoria...	1	-	1
Admitted to Pulmonary Hospitals.	3	-	3
Admitted to General or Special Hospitals.	4	2	6
Granted "light" treatment...	-	1	1
Granted Dispensary supervision with provision of special nourishment...	2	3	5
Granted Dispensary supervision or treatment..	29	-	29
Under supervision on 31st Dec., 1939..	30	4	34
Granted X-ray examination...	21	3	24
The 34 cases under supervision at the end of the year have been classified as follows :			
Pulmonary...	15	-	15
Non-pulmonary...	13	4	17
Combined ...	2	-	2
Sputum examinations.			32
Number in which tubercle bacilli were found			5

REPORT OF THE SANITARY INSPECTOR.NOTICES.

96 Preliminary Notices and 9 Statutory Notices were served during the year.

HOUSE REFUSE SCAVENGING.

Statement showing number of receptacles emptied during the year :-

Privy middens...	...	188
Dry ashpits.	10	
Ashbins.	157426	
Pails...	804	
Total loads removed.	1475	

The refuse is disposed of by controlled tipping at Pilkington Road Tip.

This method of tipping continues to be most satisfactory.

SANITARY ACCOMMODATION.

The sanitary accommodation of the district at the end of the year was as follows :-

Fresh water closets...	3298
Waste water closets...	115
Dry ashpits...	2
Ashbins...	3217
Pails.	6
Privy middens.	38
Privy closets.	61

During the year four privy middens, with six privy closets attached, have been demolished and fresh water closets and ashbins substituted.

Six pail closets at Moss Rose Mill and five pail closets at Fishbrook Dyeworks have been demolished and fresh water closets substituted.

Six privy middens, with 12 privy closets attached, which were at houses in Clearance Areas, have been demolished.

Drainage and Sewerage - As before.

DAIRIES AND COWSHEDS.

The dairies and cowsheds have been inspected on 62 occasions.

During the year nine samples of milk were procured and submitted to the Public Health Laboratory, Manchester, for tubercle bacilli examination. The result of the examination showed that each sample was negative. The 9 samples of milk were submitted to the bacteriological tests in the manner prescribed for Accredited Milk. 7 of the samples satisfied the methylene blue test and two failed to satisfy the coliform test.

MEAT.

137 visits were made to slaughterhouses.
 Total number of carcasses examined - 409.
 Total weight of meat condemned - 589 lbs.

ADULTERATION OF FOOD.

The County Council is the Authority under the Sale of Food and Drugs Acts, and samples were taken by the police.

FACTORIES, WORKPLACES AND BAKEHOUSES.

58 visits were paid to factories and workplaces and 34 visits to bakehouses.

The condition of the premises was satisfactory.

SMOKE OBSERVATIONS.

During the year one observation of a factory chimney was taken of 30 minutes' duration.

The time limit for the emission of black smoke was not exceeded.

ERADICATION OF BED BUGS.

Two houses were found to be infested with bed bugs and the tenants of the houses were provided with insecticide.

SUMMARY OF WORK DONE IN THESANITARY DEPARTMENT.

1st January to 31st December, 1939.

Visits to infectious diseases...	30
" " property under notice. ...	170
" " slaughterhouses...	137
" " factories and workplaces..	58
" " bakehouses ...	34
" " cowsheds, dairies and milkshops...	62
Inspections in connection with the Housing Act, 1936 ...	76
Interviews with owners, builders, architects, etc...	83
Inspections of drains, etc., and works in progress..	131
General visits - no nuisances...	353
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I am,

Your obedient servant,

FRED BROOK,

Sanitary Inspector.

